

Assembly Bill No. 205

CHAPTER 182

An act to amend Section 1706 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to dentistry.

[Approved by Governor September 6, 2005. Filed with
Secretary of State September 6, 2005.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 205, Ruskin. Denture identification.

Existing law, the Dental Practice Act, regulates the practice of dentistry by the Dental Board of California in the Department of Consumer Affairs. Under existing law, a complete upper or lower denture fabricated by a licensed dentist, or fabricated pursuant to the dentist's work order, is required to be marked with the patient's name or social security number, unless the patient objects.

This bill would instead require that the dentures be marked with the patient's name unless the patient objects. The bill would also require the dentist to inform the patient that the markings are to be used for identification only and that the patient has the option whether the dentures are marked.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 1706 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

1706. (a) Every complete upper or lower denture fabricated by a licensed dentist, or fabricated pursuant to the dentist's work order, shall be marked with the patient's name, unless the patient objects. The initials of the patient may be shown alone, if use of the name of the patient is not practical. The markings shall be done during fabrication and shall be permanent, legible, and cosmetically acceptable. The exact location of the markings and the methods used to implant or apply them shall be determined by the dentist or dental laboratory fabricating the denture.

(b) The dentist shall inform the patient that the markings are to be used for identification only and that the patient shall have the option to decide whether or not the dentures shall be marked.

(c) The dentist shall retain the records of those marked dentures and shall not release the records to any person except to enforcement officers, in the event of an emergency requiring personal identification by means of dental records, or to anyone authorized by the patient.

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